

Welcome to Faith Lutheran

February 18, 2018



FIRST SUNDAY
in Lent

Pastor Ellen Schoepf
prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org
4515 Dobie Road
Okemos, MI 48864



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



- To make disciples for Jesus Christ. . .
.. **we Gather** in faith for worship, prayer,
study and fellowship
.. **we Equip** the people of God with a faith
that works in real life
.. **we Serve** the world in the name of Jesus Christ
-



Faith Lutheran Church's Welcoming Statement:

We, at Faith Lutheran Church, welcome you as a child of God. As Paul said in his letter to the Galatians, “for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith.” (Galatians 3:26)
We strive to be a place where everyone is welcomed and affirmed.

No matter your age, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, marital status, faith background, political leanings, or mental or physical ability - you are welcome as you are. As children of God, we are all one in Christ Jesus and rely on the unconditional nature of God’s love and grace to be our help and guide.

Email address

faith@faithlutheranokemos.org

Websites

Faith Lutheran Church ≈ www.faithlutheranokemos.org
North/West Lower Michigan Synod ≈ www.mittensynod.org
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America ≈ www.elca.org

Facebook

facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos

You also can find the audio available on Faith’s website under worship
Sermons

Sharing the Wilderness

Have you ever experienced the disappointment of coming down from a “mountaintop” experience? Away at a camp or retreat you experience something profound, something that feels like it will transform your life forever. But when you return to everyday life you feel surrounded by obstacles to lasting change. Sometimes our baptismal life as Christians can feel like this. In worship, gathered with sisters and brothers in faith, we can experience God’s presence, but then we go back out into our everyday lives and everything becomes more challenging.

Mark’s gospel shows us that even Jesus experienced mountaintops and valleys in his spiritual life. Jesus moves very quickly from splashing in the baptismal waters of the Jordan River and receiving signs and words of divine encouragement into a lonely wilderness where for the next forty days he is tempted and tested. It is with both experiences behind him, the highs and the lows, that Jesus begins his ministry and his bold proclamation that God’s kingdom has come near.

As we gather for the season of Lent, we are reminded that in our own baptisms God’s kingdom has come near. We have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. Those who gather for worship each week will be a mixed group—some experiencing that strong affirmation, some feeling lost in the wilderness, and others somewhere between. Yet Christ’s proclamation is for all. God’s kingdom has come near. God’s promises hold true for us all no matter what we are feeling any particular week. In worship, we both affirm those around us and receive the gift of their affirmation. We gather both to give and to receive Jesus’ proclamation.

First Sunday in Lent
Sunday, February 18, 2018

Introduction to the day

On Ash Wednesday the church began its journey toward baptismal immersion in the death and resurrection of Christ. This year, the Sundays in Lent lead us to focus on five covenants God makes in the Hebrew Scriptures and to use them as lenses through which to view baptism. First Peter connects the way God saved Noah's family in the flood with the way God saves us through the water of baptism. The baptismal covenant is made with us individually, but the new life we are given in baptism is for the sake of the whole world.

If hearing assistance is needed, please ask an usher for a personal PA receiver.

The ushers also have large print copies of today's worship folder available.

If it will be difficult for you to stand along with the congregation during any part of the worship service, please feel free to remain seated.

There is a nursery available during the worship service for those who wish to use it. It is located at the end of the hall beyond the coat racks.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*We cordially greet all who have come to worship today.
Please register your attendance and join us in fellowship after the service.*

Prayer Requests

PRELUDE

"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

arr. Carleton Inness

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Opening Prayer by Rabbi Joe Black

Our God and God of all people,

God of the Rich and God of the poor.

God of the teacher and God of the student.

God of the families who wait in horror.

God of the dispatcher who hears screams of terror from under bloodied desks.

God of the first responder who bravely creeps through ravaged hallways.

God of the doctor who treats the wounded.

God of the rabbi, pastor, imam or priest who seeks words of comfort but comes up empty.

God of the young boy who sees his classmates die in front of him.

God of the weeping, raging, inconsolable mother who screams at the sight of her child's lifeless body.

God of the shattered communities torn apart by senseless violence.

God of the legislators paralyzed by fear, partisanship, money and undue influence.

God of the Right.

God of the Left.

God who hears our prayers.

God who does not answer.

On this tragic day when we confront the aftermath of the 18th School shooting in our nation on the 46th day of this year, I do not feel like praying.

Our prayers have not stopped the bullets.

Our prayers have changed nothing.

Once again, a disturbed man with easy access to guns has squinted through the sights of a weapon, aimed, squeezed a trigger and taken out his depraved anger, pain and frustration on innocents: pure souls. Students and teachers. Brothers and sisters. Mothers and fathers- cut down in an instant by the power of hatred and technology.

We are guilty, O God.

We are guilty of inaction.

We are guilty of complacency.

We are guilty of allowing ourselves to be paralyzed by politics.

The blood of our children cries out from the ground.

The blood of police officers cut down in the line of duty flows through our streets.

I do not appeal to You on this terrible morning to change us. We can only do that ourselves.

Our enemies do not come only from far away places.

The monsters we fear live among us.

May those in this room who have the power to make change find the courage to seek a pathway to sanity and hope.

May we hold ourselves and our leaders accountable.

Only then will our prayers be worthy of an answer.

AMEN

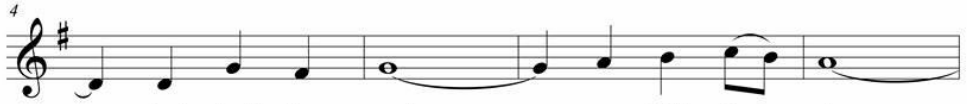
GATHERING SONG

If We Just Talk of Thoughts and Prayers

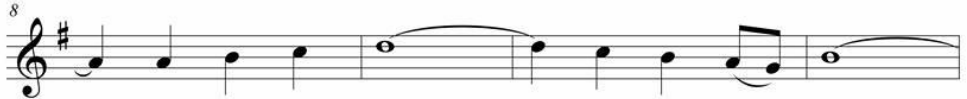
O WALY WALY LM ("Though I May Speak")



If we just talk _____ of thoughts and prayers _____
If we just dream _____ of what could be _____
If we just sing _____ of do - ing good _____
God, may our prayers _____ and dreams and songs _____



— And don't live out _____ a faith that dares, _____
— And do not build _____ com - mun - i - ty, _____
— And don't walk through _____ our neigh - bor - hood _____
— Lead to a faith _____ that takes on _____ wrongs -



— And don't take on _____ the ways of _____ death, _____
— And do not seek _____ to change our _____ ways, _____
— To learn its hope, _____ to ease its _____ pain, _____
- That works for peace _____ and just - ice, _____ too, _____



— Our thoughts and prayers _____ are fleet - ing breath. _____
— Our dreams of change _____ are false dis - plays. _____
— Our talk of good _____ is simp - ly _____ vain. _____
— Then will our prayers _____ bring joy to _____ you. _____

Biblical References: Isaiah 58; Matthew 7:21, 24-27; 1 Corinthians 13:1; James 2:14-26; 1 John 3:18-24

Tune: Traditional English melody

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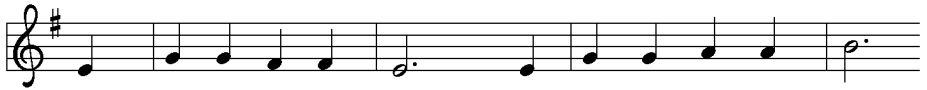
Email: bcgillette@comcast.net New Hymns: www.carolynshymns.com

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Genesis 9:8-17

Today's reading is the conclusion to the flood story. Because of human sin, the Lord destroys the earth by flood, saving only Noah, his family, and the animals on the ark. Yet divine destruction gives way to divine commitment. As in the first creation, God blesses humanity and establishes a covenant with all creatures.

A reading from Genesis.

⁸God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹“As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” ¹²God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” ¹⁷God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:18-22

As God acted through Christ's suffering and death to bring us to God, so God acts through baptism to save us from a sinful existence. This spiritual cleansing marks our new life in Christ.

A reading from 1 Peter.

¹⁸Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

GOSPEL: Mark 1:9-15

The Spirit that comes upon Jesus at his baptism sustains him when he is tested by Satan so that he might proclaim the good news of God's reign.

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Thy Holy Wings

ELW #613

CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Renewed in the promises of baptism, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Prayers of intercession are prayed.

To each petition, the assembly responds:

Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

*The presiding minister concludes the prayers,
and the assembly responds:*

Trusting in your covenant of mercy, O God, we lift our prayers to you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

The assembly is seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

"Lamb of God, What Wondrous Love"

(Faure, arr. Petker)

Chancel Choir

OFFERING RESPONSE

Jesus, Lamb of God

All in All

Je - sus, Lamb of God, wor - thy is your name;

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. The melody is written in a simple, homophonic style. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff. The bass staff provides a simple harmonic accompaniment. The first system ends with a semibreve note in the treble staff and a whole note in the bass staff.

Je - sus, Lamb of God, wor - thy is your name.

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. It ends with a half note in the treble staff and a whole note in the bass staff.

Text: Dennis Jernigan, refrain of "You are my all in all"

Music: ALL IN ALL, Dennis Jernigan

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OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Holy, Holy, Holy'. It consists of four staves of music in a single system, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the first line of the hymn. The second staff contains the second line. The third staff contains the third line. The fourth staff contains the fourth line and ends with a double bar line.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, our living Water and our merciful Guide, together with rivers and seas, wells and springs we bless and magnify you.

You led your people Israel through the desert, and provided them water from the rock. We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water, who joined us in our desert, pouring out his life for the world.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection, we await your salvation for all this thirsty world. Pour out your Spirit on this holy food and on all the baptized gathered for this feast: wash away our sin, that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.
Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit,
let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Return to God with all your heart.
Receive bread for the journey, drink for the desert.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

COMMUNION SONG



- 1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
- 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
- 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

INSTRUMENTAL SONG

“Jesus, Still Lead On”

arr. Raymond Haan

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

ELW #800

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven.
Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for
justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of
grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth,
and claimed us as children of the light,
strengthen you on your journey into life renewed.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor
and give you ✝ peace.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

Bless Now, O God, the Journey

ELW #326

DISMISSAL

Marked with the cross of Christ,
go forth to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Voluntary in G Minor”

by George Berg

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Sisters & brothers in Christ, welcome to worship! May your time in the Lord be rich and blessed.

Pastor	Ellen Schoepf	prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org
Secretary	Katie Love	klove@faithlutheranokemos.org
Director of Christian Education		Katie Love
Director of Music		Debra Borton-McDonough
Organist/Pianist		Bruce Williams

February 11, 2018 Attendance 91

Serving Faith	February 18	February 25
Acolyte	Austin Jones	Kaden Steinke
Altar Care	Tammy Heilman & Peggy Crum	
Communion Assistants	Austin Jones	Kaden Steinke
	Ken Schoepf	Bob Shorman
	Jack Dingedine	Elaine Harrison
Greeters	Mark & Molly DeHate	Jeff & Melinda Schultz
Lay Assistants	Ken Schoepf	Bob Shorman
Readers	Jack Dingedine	Elaine Harrison
Ushers	Harrison	Harrison
Nursery	Jennifer Coe	Jennifer and Maia Guenther

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Faith Family & Friends

February 18, 2018

Log onto Faith's website www.faithlutheranokemos.org 24/7 for updates

DEADLINES

Sunday worship folder announcements—Tuesday of each week
Submit to Katie at klove@faithlutheranokemos.org

March Faith Family News newsletter—
Please submit by Monday, February 19
Submit to Katie at klove@faithlutheranokemos.org

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Please lift up in prayer this week:

- ✠ Members—Max Ambs, Lowell Barricklow, Ellen Milne, Tammy Heilman, and Virginia Tashner.
- ✠ Friends and family—
Harriet, Todd Barricklow, Greg Beckwith, Carol Coyer, Kay Coker, Chris Cotter, Terrie Becker, Brian Fent, Allyson, Heather, Erin, Al, Sai, Jeanne Hicks, Emily, Rod Kaschner, Eshwar Lingamgunta, Jenn Leitch, Brian Johnson, Meredith, Jeanne and Leonard, John Joseph Lanzetta, Johnathon Manitta family, Loretta Milne, Bethany Robison, Karen Smiley, Jean Smith, Scott Seeley, “Little Zee” (3 yr. old daughter of a friend of Brenda Kopf’s), and the White family.
- ✠ Our mission partner congregation—Lansing Redeemer Lutheran Church
- ✠ Those in military service—Jon Schoepf, Lani Yearicks,
Melody and Adam Wright and Joe Galvin.
- ✠ Samaritans children who seek adoption. Pray for each to be adopted and for Jesus to be their lifelong friends

NORTH/WEST LOWER MICHIGAN SYNOD PRAYER PARTNER

As Jesus calls us to be one, even as he and the Father are one, please include Rev. William Uetricht and the congregation of First Lutheran Church of Muskegon, Michigan in your prayers of intercession this week.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Weekly Offering **2/11/18** Year-to-date as of 12/31/17

Loose Cash	\$ 40.25	Income	\$272,093
Loose Checks	\$ 22.00	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>\$296,290</u>
World Hunger	\$ 75.00	Net Income	-24,197
Facility Rental	\$ 100.00		
Outlaw Christian Book	\$ 8.00		
Tanzania Water Project	\$1000.00		
Parish House Project	\$ 100.00		
Vision 2020	\$8000.00		
Total	\$12,410.25		

ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS

Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God by...

Vase 1: the Richardson family in celebration of Emily Brown's birthday.

Vase 2: Bob & Mary Ann Scheuerman in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Huston's anniversary.

THIS WEEK'S CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

Today

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship: Noisy Offering

2018 Stewardship Focus – Our 2018 Stewardship Focus will be Michigan Refugee Hope. All Noisy Offerings during 2018 will go to help fund the care of the kids we and other foster parents are taking in.

11:30 a.m. Mutual Ministry

6:00 p.m. Loaves & Fishes

Monday, February 19th

7:00 p.m. Council Meeting

Tuesday, February 20th

Noon Study in Pastor's office

Wednesday, February 21st

7:30 a.m. Men's Study

9:30 a.m. Quilting and Samaritas ACTION

5:30 p.m. Joyful Noise

5:45 p.m. Meal is served

6:15 p.m. Faith Bells
6:30 p.m. Trinity & Confirmation and activities for pk-3rd
7:15 p.m. Worship
The Book study and Nooma Video series will resume following Lent

Thursday, February 22nd
11:00 a.m. Dobie Road

Friday, February 23rd - Sunday 25th Youth Retreat

Parish House Updates/News

To help enable independence and encourage important life skills for budgeting and planning meals, we will be collecting gift cards to Meijer and cash donations for the youth for groceries. They have been working on these skills and we will continue to work with them as they move here beginning next week. Donations can be given at the regular offering time in a separate envelope marked "Groceries".

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE!

Weekly Lenten Services will take place beginning on Wednesday evening, February 21 at 7:15 p.m. The traditional Soup Supper will be offered before worship. This year, our Lenten focus in Wednesday services will be The Beatitudes.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND STUDIES

Upcoming Caregiving Meeting

Mark your calendars for our upcoming topics:

March 8th – Jessica Corson with Anew Moon Yoga & Wellness, Meditation and Relaxation

April 12th – Video (PBS special) Caring for Mom & Dad. This is an hour-long video.

February:

- 18th: 9 a.m. Sunday School PK-3 and Trinity 4-6
23-25th: Youth Weekend Retreat: No Teen Night on the 25th.
25th: No Teen Night on Sunday as we will be returning from up North.

March:

- 4th 9 a.m. Sunday School PK-3 and Trinity 4-6
7th: 6:30-7:10 Trinity (4th-6th) Confirmation (7th-8th) and activities for (pk-3rd) 7:15 p.m. Lenten Worship Service.
11th: 9 a.m. Sunday School PK-3 and Trinity 4-6
14th: 5:45 Trinity & Confirmation Serving Night!
17th: 1:00 Confirmation Day Event, 6:00 p.m. Confirmation and Youth Lock-in.
18th 9 a.m. Sunday School PK-3 and Trinity 4-6
21st 6:30-7:10 Trinity (4th-6th) Confirmation (7th-8th) and activities for (pk-3rd) 7:15 p.m. Lenten Worship Service.
25th: 9 a.m. Sunday School PK-3 and Trinity 4-6
28th-April 8th No Sunday School/Trinity/Confirmation Programming.



Youth Winter Retreat

The Winter Retreat will be on Friday, February 23-Sunday, February 25th. This trip is for students in 9-12th grade and for 8th grade students who have finished their confirmation requirements.

The Deadline to sign up is this Wednesday!!

Email Katie at klove@faithlutheranokemos.org for more information.



On Wednesday, March 14th all Trinity and Confirmation kids are invited to join as we travel to Okemos Community Church to help pack food for the “Weekend Survival Kit’s” program. We will need permission slips for all

children attending. We will also need drivers. We will be leaving the church at 5:45 p.m. and returning around 7:30/7:45. A sign-up genius link will be sent out soon.



Confirmation Day Event:

Saturday, March 17th. 1-6 p.m.:

Fun, Food, Games, Study and making their Faith Journey Scrap Books.

Followed by...

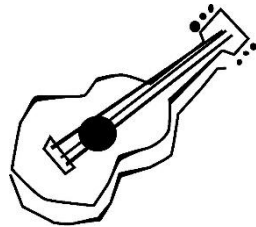


Confirmation & High School Lock in.

Saturday, March 17th 6 p.m. – midnight.

Students can stay midnight until morning worship if desired. Please let Tara know.

2 Guitars were found in the old Youth Room behind the Choir Room. If they belong to you please let Katie or Tara know.



BLAST OFF FOR BOOKS



The 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering
Houston Literacy Campaign

The teens going to the ELCA gathering are collecting books for the children of Houston as part of our offering. These books will be handed out at community book fairs, camps and other events around the city as part of the Gathering's Service and Learning experience.

Ways you can participate

1. Place a monetary donation in the BLAST OFF FOR BOOKS box in the narthex. We will use that money to buy the designated books.
2. Use the list provided on the BLAST OFF FOR BOOKS table to purchase the books requested. **Please note ONLY books on the list will be accepted.** Books must be new or gently used. On the list there is a link to an amazon page that has all the books listed for purchase.

Please let Katie or Tara know if you have any questions!!

Thank you for your support!!!



Visit the SPONSOR Board in the Narthex to sponsor a portion of our trip to Houston!! Thanks for your support!



****Rescheduled from February****

**Euchre Tournament
Friday, March 16th at 7pm**

Come and join Membership Development for a fun night of Euchre. If you do not know how to play that's o.k.- we will teach you! Bring your own beverage, we will provide a few snacks that won't get the cards dirty! Sign up in the Narthex on the Membership Development clip board. Hope to see you there!

GREEN TEAM NEWS

On February 28th, during the Lenten evening dinner, the Green Team will be showing a segment of Planet Earth II, a BBC produced documentary on the beauty and grandeur of God's creation. The 45 minute segment will be on Jungles of the world. From the producers:

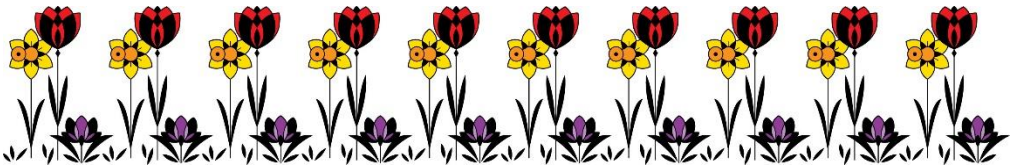
"Jungles are the richest places on Earth. A magical world of surprise, drama and unforgettable wild characters. From the jungles of Brazil, home to caiman hunting jaguars and strange jungle dolphins that swim in the tree tops, to Costa Rica where ninja frogs fight huge wasps, we watch as the animals face life in the most competitive place on Earth. We follow alongside the beautiful indri as she bounces through the forest in Madagascar and stay out late at night to witness glow-in-the-dark creatures never before filmed! There are even mini 'dragon lizards' with a special trick to deal with life in the jungle!"

I hope you will join us for the viewing of this special film starting at 6:00.

The Green Team.



The **Annual Marriage Retreat** will take place at the Holiday Inn in Ludington, March 2-4. You will be hearing more about this over the next month. If you are interested in coming to this event, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.



2018 EASTER FLOWER DEDICATION

Order deadline: March 18th

I would like to order the following flower(s) to be placed in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday:

<u>QUANTITY</u>	<u>FLOWER(S)</u>	<u>ORDER TOTAL</u>
_____	Daffodil(s) \$10 ea.	_____
_____	Tulip(s)* \$10 ea.	_____

*Color selection for tulips: Purple Pink Yellow Red

Please PRINT your dedication(s) below:

Name person(s) dedicating:

In memory of:

In honor of:

In celebration of:

Make checks payable to Faith Lutheran Church
Place this dedication form in Katie Love's mailbox or office.

*Please pick up your flower(s)
after worship service Easter Sunday*